

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

*In vivo* methods are provided for using an electric field to delivery therapeutic treatment to a subject while reducing inducement of histopathological change in the target muscle tissue, such as is associated with induction or amplification of an immune response caused by the pulsed electric field. Therapeutic agents can be delivered nto cells of muscle for local and systemic treatments with optimal gene expression and minimal tissue damage. In particular, therapeutic agents include naked or formulated nucleic acid, polypeptides and chemotherapeutic agents.